Equipping the Early Infantry Brigade Combat Team (E-IBCT)

The Army Brigade Combat Team (BCT) modernization strategy will build a versatile mix of mobile, networked BCTs that can leverage mobility, protection, information, and precision fires to conduct effective operations across the spectrum of conflict. Key to modernizing the Army BCTs is to empower Soldiers with increased Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities. Soldiers of the Army's Infantry Brigade Combat Teams will receive enhancements that will provide much needed networked ISR capabilities. Today, Soldiers of the Army Evaluation Task Force (AETF) at Fort Bliss, Texas, are part of the acquisition process, testing and evaluating the equipment to ensure a better end product.

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Network Integration Kit (NIK):

The B-Kit provides initial network connectivity to transfer sensor and communication data to and from existing tactical wheeled vehicles. The B-Kit consists of an integrated computer system hosting the latest communications and radio systems, limited battle command and Systems of Systems Common Operating Environment software; it will be initially integrated onto the HMMWV platform.

AN/GSR-9/10 Unattended Urban and Tactical Ground Sensors (U/T-UGS):

- Used to perform mission tasks such as perimeter defense, surveillance, target acquisition, and situational awareness (SA), including Chemical, Radiological, Nuclear and early warning.
- Increases Soldier's situational awareness in complex terrains.
- Includes multi-mode sensors for target detection, location and classification; and an imaging capability for target identification, information transferable over the network.
- Hand-employed by Soldiers or robotic vehicles either inside or outside of buildings and structures.

XM501 Non-Line of Sight Launch System (NLOS-LS):

- Provides soldiers Networked unmanned launch missile system capable of extended range targeting and precision attack.
- Consists of highly deployable, platform-independent Container Launch Unit (CLU).
- Each CLU consists of a computer and communication system and fifteen Precision Attack Missiles (PAM).
- The missile receives target information prior to launch, and can receive and respond to target location updates during flight.

XM1216 Small Unmanned Ground Vehicle (SUGV):

- Soldiers can use the SUGV to conduct extended reconnaissance of urban and complex terrain and subterranean areas to gain reconnaissance information.
- Provides vital information regarding buildings, field fortifications, tunnels, sewers, subways, bunkers, facilities, and other structures in support of military operations, peace keeping, and other stability and reconstruction operations.
- The Soldier will be able to conduct reconnaissance of a building, investigate suspected IED's or send the SUGV into caves or tunnels to seek out the enemy.

XM156 Class I Block 0 Unmanned Aerial System (CL I UAS):

- The CL I UAS provides the Infantry Soldier with Reconnaissance and Surveillance and Target Acquisition (RSTA).
- Uses autonomous flight and navigation but it will interact with the network and Soldier to dynamically update routes and target information.
- Provides dedicated reconnaissance support and early warning to the squad and platoon level in environment not suited for larger assets.
- Capable of maintaining constant surveillance.